

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application claims priority under 35 USC §119 to Finnish Patent Application No. 20030602 filed on April 22, 2003 and is the national phase application of PCT/FI2004/050049 under 35 U.S.C. § 371.

~~Background of the Invention~~

Field of the Invention

The invention relates to a method for charging particles, said particles being used for processing of an optical material, in which method at least a gaseous reactant is supplied and oxidizing gas is supplied to the reactant. The invention also relates to a particle charging device for forming particles, said particles being used for processing an optical material, which charging device comprises a channel for supplying a gaseous reactant, a channel for supplying oxidizing gas, and a charging member.

## Background of the Invention

~~Description of the state of the art~~

Page 3, third paragraph:

~~The other, dependent claims will present some preferred embodiments of the invention.~~